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Melissa Hardy

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

GROUP ART UNIT: 1638

Perry, Christopher

APPLICATION NO: 09/770,738

EXAMINER: Ibrahim, Medina Ahmed

FILED: January 26, 2001

CONFIRMATION NO: 6030

FOR: Inbred Maize Line NP2171

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of March 27, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

Please replace the last paragraph beginning on page 20 and continuing on page 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A'
The laboratory-based techniques described above, in particular RFLP and SSR, are routinely used in such backcrosses to identify the progenies having the highest degree of genetic